

By harnessing the mighty potential of the timber industry, there was a 10-fold rise in the volume of mechanization work related to planting and forest sowing, a 9-fold increase in preparation of the soil for planting and a doubling of activity related to the tending of the plantings. This growth was achieved over a six-year period. In all, 22 years have elapsed since forestry evolved as an independent sector. Throughout this period, budgetary expenditures on it have increased 2.5-fold, there has even been a decrease in the volume of forest sowing and planting, and activities related to tending the plantations and establishing nurseries for raising saplings of arboreal and shrub varieties have remained at roughly the 1965 level. The calibre of reforestation work is technologically and organizationally inferior. Consequently, throughout the country as a whole, every third hectare of established plantations is perishing, and in a number of forest farms the loss is as high as 90 per cent.

The advantages to be gained from joint management of forestry and timber industry operations are also demonstrated by the 133 integrated enterprises that were formed three years ago. Since then there has already been a 24 per cent increase in tree planting and a 10 per cent increase in soil preparation for forest cultures, nurseries and plantations there, as well as a 2.4-fold increase in the construction of logging roads. During the last three years 42 forest ranger farmsteads and 7 chemical fire-control stations have been built and reconstructed, and 74 hothouses for growing planting material under controlled environmental conditions have been placed in service.

Deliveries of forestry machinery have also been stepped up. The output of individual machines